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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Spain

DATE: 25X1X

SUBJECT Statements of Francisco de Luis

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 7 March 1947

25X1A

PAGES 2

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT

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EVALUATION OF SOURCE

EVALUATION OF CONTENT

1. Francisco de Luis is not a member of any political party and has never been active in politics. At the age of seventeen he was a "Requete"; subsequently he associated frequently with "Maurista" youths. He lived in the same house with members of the Confederacion Espanola de Derechas Autonomas - CEDA - and has known Gil Robles for many years, but never joined the CEDA.
2. While de Luis has never formally been proposed for a post in the Franco Government, it was rumored at one time that he was to be appointed Minister of Labor, and on another occasion that he was to receive the post of Minister of National Education. He is not disposed, however, to identify himself with Franco by accepting any post in the present regime. Although he represents the Syndicate of Graphic Arts in the Spanish Cortes, he has never taken the oath and has ignored several summonses to do so.
3. Two circumstances have militated against political activity on the part of Francisco de Luis: his position as Consejero-Delegado of the Casa Editorial, and his membership in the Junta Tecnica of Accion Catolica. De Luis hinted, however, that at the propitious moment he might present his resignation to the Cardinal-Primate and dedicate himself to politics. He is a good friend of Manuel Jimenez Fernandez, who would like to have de Luis as his Madrid agent, but the two men have been unable to confer because of the vigilance of the police. One reason Franco's agents watch Francisco de Luis so carefully is that they are endeavoring to find out if he receives money from the British.
4. The pretext de Luis had for his trip to Portugal in mid-December was that, presumably for the Casa Editorial, he was looking for paper, as he actually did, but his real purpose in going there was to visit Don Juan, with whom he had a long conversation. He believes that all parties should unite to bring Don Juan to Spain as soon as possible, and that the situation becomes worse the longer this move is delayed. The ideal constitution for Spain,

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-2-

in his opinion, would be that of 1876, under which the king could be deprived of power by vote of the people if his actions were not approved. De Luis believes that if a republican regime were established immediately after that of Franco, it would not have sufficient strength or authority to prevent violence.

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